

Appl. No.: 10/614,325  
Art Unit: 1712 Docket No.: B02-31  
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the two paragraphs beginning at page 2, line 5, starting from "The present invention," with the following amended paragraphs:

--The present invention is directed to a golf ball having a core and a cover, particularly to a golf ball core or cover having ~~[[a]]~~ an elastomeric composition formed from a base polymer and at least one carbon-carbon initiator. When heated to a decomposition temperature of about 150°C to about 300°C, the carbon-carbon initiator breaks along an elongated carbon-carbon single bond of at least ~~about 1.55~~ 0.155 nm in length with a half-life of about 10 hours to about 0.1 hours to form carbon-based free radicals that facilitates the crosslinking in the base polymer.

Suitable carbon-carbon initiators for the present invention include, but are not limited to, aliphatic hydrocarbon initiators, alicyclic hydrocarbon initiators, aromatic hydrocarbon initiators, substituted carbon-carbon initiators, and oligomeric carbon-carbon initiators. ~~[[Mst]]~~ Most preferred are hydrocarbon initiators that are compatible with the base polymer.--